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Manzanillo.—Four deaths were reported as follows: Tuberculosis, 1; senility, 1; hydrocephalus, 1; stillborn, 1. No yellow fever or small-pox reported.

Daiquiri and Guantanamo.—Nothing of interest reported.

Respectfully,

HERMAN B. PARKER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Plague at Honolulu.

HONOLULU, H. I., *December 26, 1899,*
Via San Francisco, Cal., January 2, 1900.

One death from plague December 23; 2 December 25. No other suspects.

CARMICHAEL,
Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

HONOLULU, H. I., *December 18, 1899.*

SIR: Confirmatory of my telegram of this date I have the honor to inform you that 5 cases and 5 deaths from what is pronounced to be bubonic plague have occurred in Honolulu, 2 on the 11th and 3 on the 12th instant.

The presence of the disease was not suspected until the morning of the 12th, when a death occurred in a Chinese patient of a Chinese physician, who called Dr. George Herbert of this city to see it with him. He regarded the case with such suspicion that the Hawaiian health authorities were notified and a necropsy was ordered. The necropsy was held by Dr. Hoffman, bacteriologist of the Hawaiian board of health, and Drs. Day, Herbert, and myself were present. The examination pointed strongly to the fact that death was caused by bubonic plague. Another case, also a Chinaman that had died on the evening of the 11th instant, was also examined with the same result.

The symptoms previous to death were high fever, 104° to 105° F., rapid pulse, 140 to 150, headache, delirium, vomiting, and pain and swelling in the inguinal regions. The duration of the illness in 2 of the cases was three days and from three to four days in the other cases. Specimens for bacteriological examination were taken from the enlarged glands, blood, pericardial fluid and viscera. Stained preparations from juice expressed from the enlarged glands showed the presence in large numbers of a short bacillus rounded at both ends and closely resembling that of bubonic plague. Cultures from the first case show the bacillus of bubonic plague.

A guinea pig was inoculated on the 12th instant, a rabbit on the 13th, and a rat on December 15. The guinea pig and rat died December 17.

The first case was in the person of Yon Chong, Chinese, male, aged 22 years, employed as a bookkeeper by Wing Wo Tai, a general merchant on Nuana street, near the northeast corner of King street. He had resided in Honolulu for more than one year; died December 12. The other case examined on the morning of the 12th was Taen Kwock Yee, male, Chinese, age, 44 years; residence Maunakea street, two blocks west of first case; died December 11. The third case, Yuk Hoy, Chinese, male, age, 40 years; residence 413 Nuana street; died Decem-

ber 11. The fourth case was in the rear of Ahe's Chinese furniture shop on Nuwana street and Pauhi street, Ching Wy How, male, Chinese, age, 45 years; died December 11. The fifth case, a South Sea Islander, named Nakaulia, age, 27 years; residence, Owen street, in rear of opera house; died December 12.

A sixth case was reported on December 14 on Pauahi street, near Nuwana, Maria Hils, Hawaiian, age 28 years. This case is considered doubtful, as the bacillus has not been isolated. In fact, what is considered the plague bacillus has been isolated in but 2 of the cases—Yon Chong, the first case examined, and the fifth case, Nakaulia, although the clinical symptoms were much alike in the first 5 cases reported. The bodies of the deceased have been cremated. All of the places where deaths occurred have been quarantined and disinfected. The Hawaiian board of health surrounded Chinatown by a sanitary cordon, and the district was divided into sections and a house-to-house inspection at once begun. These measures were decided upon by a special meeting of the board of health held on the 12th instant, at which I was asked to be present. No communication is allowed between Chinatown and the rest of the city save by the officials on duty.

The council of state for Hawaii has appropriated the sum of \$25,000 to begin the necessary sanitary work required in Chinatown and elsewhere.

A receiving hospital will be erected at an early date and a crematory is now almost ready for use.

Communication with the other islands except under quarantine restriction has been prohibited, and all vessels plying between island ports must undergo a detention period of at least seven days before proceeding to their destination.

Vessels from the other islands are not allowed to dock at the wharves, but must anchor in the stream. All of these measures are praiseworthy, and show that the Hawaiian board of health has the matter well in hand.

The origin of the plague here is obscure, but it is supposed to be in some article of food, clothing, merchandise, or *by rats from Oriental steamers*.

Oriental food stuffs and freight have been landed and distributed here within the past six weeks without disinfection.

No cases have occurred among the immigrants landed here at the quarantine station so far as known at the present date of writing.

All of those attacked here resided in the city for a year or more.

The United States military authorities were promptly notified, and troops on shore leave returned to the only United States transport in port, the *Warren*, with 800 colored soldiers for Manila. She arrived here December 9, and as no disease was suspected in the city the soldiers were given leave on shore during the time the vessel was taking on supplies and coal. She promptly left the harbor and anchored outside the reef, where she will remain until the 18th instant, when if nothing develops she will proceed to Manila. All on board have been bathed and their clothing disinfected on the vessel.

The United States transport *Sherman* arrived off port on the 13th instant, but did not stop, and proceeded to Manila without delay.

No new cases have been reported up to this date, December 18.

I shall adopt all measures within my power to insure the safety of vessels leaving for United States ports, but the absence of a plant for disinfection here is severely felt at the present time, and in view of

this fact additional precautions should be adopted at all Pacific coast ports, and such measures should insure the destruction of all vermin on board of vessels. I transmit herewith a map showing location of the cases reported.

Respectfully,

D. A. CARMICHAEL,
Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

ITALY.

Sanitary precautions observed in connection with vessels from Egypt.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 29, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose for your information copy of a note from the Italian ambassador at this capital reporting as to the sanitary precautions observed in Italy in respect to vessels coming from Egypt.

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY,
Secretary of State.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 23, 1899.*

SIR: In connection with my note of the 8th instant, I have the honor to transmit a copy of the following telegraphic communication received from the royal ministry of the interior relative to the modifications made in the sanitary measures to be applied to vessels coming from Egypt:

"By Order No. 16 of the 'Maritime health' (commission or bureau) dated to-day, December 23, it is decided that the prophylactic measures to be applied to vessels coming from Egypt are limited to the medical inspection of persons on board, and to the disinfection of personal or domestic effects not perfectly clean, after which, if the result of the inspection is favorable, free pratique shall be given the vessel.

"Such proceedings shall be performed at the first port of arrival, which must exclusively be one of these: Genoa, Leghorn, Naples, Palermo, Brindisi, Messina, Venice.

"In the successive stations (ports of call) even though nothing abnormal 'may have occurred during the passage, the general medical inspection of persons on board and the disinfection of effects to be landed shall be insisted on.'

"The obligation of a ten days' sanitary supervision of all individuals landed is maintained in conformity with the preceding orders.

"The prefects having jurisdiction in the port of destination of the goods contemplated by article 4 of the order of maritime sanitation of May 8, 1897, No. 3, coming from Egypt, may allow them to enter on a favorable permit of the local physician stating that, according to the conditions of the goods and to the sanitary state of the vessel on which they arrive, every injury to the public health is excluded by such a measure."

Respectfully,

FAVA,
Ambassador.

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE.

Report from Naples.

NAPLES, ITALY, *December 13, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended December 13, 1899, bills of health were issued to the following ships:

December 8, to the steamship *Fürst Bismarck* of the Hamburg-American Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 14 cabin and 407 steerage passengers, and 177 pieces of large and 372 pieces of small baggage.

December 11, to the steamship *Victoria* of the Anchor Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 213 steerage passengers, and 47 pieces of large and 200 pieces of small baggage.